Drought conditions in Madhya Pradesh

1389. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the reported starvation deaths in drought-stricken Madhya Pradesh, especially in Sarguja district, as reported in the Times of India dated 16th March, 1992 ; and

(b) if so, whether Government have made any independent inquiries into the drought situation and the reported starvation deaths, if so, the deaths and outcome thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K. C. LENKA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) On the basis of the independent inquiries made by the Central Government, the reports on Starvation Deaths in Sarguja district of Madhya Pradesh have not been substantiated.

Famine in Gujarat

1390. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE :
SHRIMATI MIRA DAS :
SHRI SOM PAL :
SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of districts, Talukas and villages and total population and cattle affected by scarcity famine condition in Gujarat;

(b) whether Government have offered any grant, asistance to Gujarat in view of widespread and acute famine ;

(c) whether the relief work has started all over the State and cattle relief, fodder centres have been opened ;

(d) whether paucity of funds are affecting adversely relief operations; and

(e) whether it is a fact that Gujarat is facing acute shortage of drinking water?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K. C. LENKA) : (a) According to information received from the Govt, of Gujarat, 10988 villages in 16 districts are presently affected by drought conditions. The hujnan population and the cattle heads affected by the drought - conditions are about 200.00 lakh and 66.00 lakh respectively.

(b) A Central Team recently visited the drought affected areas of Gujarat to assess the situation. Additional central assistance to the State for drought relief measures will be considered on receipt of the report of the Central Team.

(c) Yes, Sir, as per report from the State Government.

(d) No such report has been received.

(e) According to assessment made by the State Government, 5927 villages and 74 towns and cities would face shortage of drinking water in the wake of present drought conditions.

Arrest of General Managers, D.M.S.

1391. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI :
SHRI GURWUDAS DASGUPTA :
SHRI RANJIT SINGH :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the General Manager of the Delhi Milk Scheme was arrested for taking bribe from a private party; if so, the amount of bribe involved and what benefits he had promised to give to other party ;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the General Manager is still working on" his post, if so, what are the reasons that he has not been suspended so far; and

(c) what action Government have taken/ propose to take to root out corruption from DMS which is the principal agency for supplying milk in the capital ?